

Message Text

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A/AID:MWAMPLER (DRAFT)

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ARA/LA/EP:RFWEBER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:SNAR

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS CONTROL - CUSTOMS ALLOTMENT

REF: A) QUITO 7635 B) QUITO 8061

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES INFORMATION PROVIDED REF. A AND REGRETS DELAY IN RESPONSE. REFTEL DESCRIPTION IS IMPORTANT FIRST STEP TOWARD PROVIDING PROJECT INFORMATION REQUIRED BY WASHINGTON IN ORDER MAKE DECISION ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT FOR CUSTOMS PROJECT.

2. RECOGNIZING THAT PROJECT AGREEMENT FOR CUSTOMS EXPIRES DECEMBER 15, 1974, WE ALLOTING FUNDS COVER COSTS OF US CUSTOMS ADVISORS FOR ONE YEAR PERIOD. DO NOT UNDERSTAND MISSION'S INTENT SHIFT FUNDING OF CUSTOMS PROJECT FROM U.S. FISCAL YEAR TO CALENDAR YEAR PER REF. B BUT ASSUME PURPOSE WOULD BE TO MESH U.S. PROGRAMMING WITH ECUADOREAN FISCAL YEAR FROM JANUARY THROUGH DECEMBER.

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3. WHILE WE AUTHORIZING FUNDING U.S. ADVISORY POSITIONS,

WE WOULD APPRECIATE EXPANSION INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTEL REGARDING EQUIPMENT JUSTIFICATION. RE PARAS. 2 AND 4 REF.

A, HAVE NARCOTICS INTELLIGENCE UNITS AND NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT UNIT BEEN ESTABLISHED AND ARE THEY FUNCTIONING? IF NOT, WHEN DOES MISSION ESTIMATE THOSE UNITS WILL BE CREATED AND GIVEN FULL LEGAL STATURE AND POWERS? FURTHER, IF UNITS HAVE NOT YET BEEN CREATED, PLEASE EXPLAIN CURRENT ACTIVITIES

AND LOCATION OF 15 PARTICIPANTS IN US CUSTOMS NARCOTICS TRAINING COURSE DESCRIBED PARA. 3 PAGE 5 QUITO A-84. ALSO, PLEASE PROVIDE STATUS REPORT ON COMMODITIES PROVIDED IN FY 74, I.E. TO WHAT CUSTOMS UNITS HAS EQUIPMENT BEEN CON-SIGNED, HOW UTILIZED, ITS EFFECTIVENESS ON CUSTOMS OPERATIONS ETC.? REGARDING EQUIPMENT REQUESTED PARA. 4 REFTEL, REQUEST MISSION PROVIDE JUSTIFICATION FOR AMOUNT AND TYPE REQUESTED. WE NOTE THAT PROVISION OF VEHICLES APPEARS TO BE ONE TIME ONLY REQUEST AS NO VEHICLES RE-QUESTED FOR FUTURE FISCAL YEARS. WOULD APPRECIATE MISSION IDENTIFYING HOW THESE VEHICLES FIT INTO GOE PLANS? FOR EXAMPLE, WILL VEHICLES BE FOR INTELLIGENCE OR ENFORCEMENT UNIT OR BOTH? HOW DOES NUMBER OF VEHICLES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT RELATE TO ALREADY EXISTING CUSTOMS RESOURCES IN NARCOTICS FIELD AND HOW WILL IT BE USED? THAT IS, WILL THE VEHICLES PROVIDE MOBILITY FOR GIVEN NUMBER DETAILED ENFORCEMENT UNITS AT KEY LOCATIONS, WILL THEY BE USED FOR GENERAL STAFF SUPPORT, OR FOR WHAT PURPOSE WILL THEY BE USED?

4. DEPARTMENT LOOKS FORWARD RECEIVING COPY OF DRAFT PROJECT AGREEMENT AND WE HOPEFUL IT WILL ADDRESS SOME OF THE CONCERNS MENTIONED ABOVE.

5. WE AGREE THAT CUSTOMS PROJECT IS DISCRETE NARCOTICS ACTIVITY AND WE PREPARED ALLOT FUNDS FOR FY 75 PROGRAM FOR COMMODITIES FOR IT UPON SATISFACTORY ANSWER CONCERNS RAISED HEREIN. INGERSOLL

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